IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Mail Stop: Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 Sir: This is a request for filing a __ continuation or X divisional application under 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b), of pending prior application: Serial No. <u>09/551,883</u> Filed on April 18, 2000 Of Orlaw MASSER et al. Entitled: DLC Coating System and Process and Apparatus as Process and Arrangement for Producing Such a Layer System Examiner: A. Turner Group: <u>1775</u> Accompanying this order is a true copy of the prior application as X 1. originally filed. Total pages 54 X New Formal drawings are being filed herewith consisting of 6 2. Sheets, depicting Figures 1-6. X 3. Declaration and Power of Attorney: Newly executed (original or copy) a. X Copy from prior application b. Deletion of Inventors i. signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) named in the prior

application

<u>X</u>

4. Incorporation by Reference:

The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which a copy of the oath or declaration is supplied under Box 3b, is considered as being part of the disclosure of the accompanying application and is hereby incorporated by reference therein.

- __ 5. Cancel original claims____.
- __ 6. Small entity status:
 - a. _ A small entity statement is enclosed
 - b. __A statement of small entity status (copy attached) was filed on ___ in the prior application and status as a small entity is still proper and desired.
 - c. _ Is no longer claimed
- X 7. The filing fee is calculated below:

CLAIMS AS FILED, INCLUDING ANY CLAIMS CANCELLED OR ADDED BY PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

 Basic Fee
 \$385
 \$770.00

 Total Claims
 32
 - 20
 =
 12
 x
 9
 =
 \$
 18
 =
 \$216.00

 Ind. Claims
 - 3
 =
 x
 43
 =
 \$
 86
 =
 \$

 Multiple Dependent Claims
 +
 145
 =
 \$
 290
 =
 \$

 Total
 \$
 \$986.00

- __ 8. Please charge my Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #__) in the amount of \$__.
- \underline{X} 9. A check in the amount of $\underline{\$986.00}$ to cover the filing fee is enclosed.
- X 10. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee which may be required under 37 CFR 1.16 or 37 CFR 1.17 or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket # 080313.48830D1).

- X 11. Amend the specification by inserting before the first line the sentence: --This application is a division of application Serial No. 09/551,883, filed April 18, 2000.--
- X 12. Priority of Application. No. 100 18 143.0, filed in Germany on April 12, 2000, is hereby claimed under 35 U.S.C. 119.
- X 13. A certified copy of each said priority document was filed in application Serial No. 09/551,883 on August 17, 2000.
- X 14. The prior application is assigned of record to <u>Balzers</u> Aktiengesellschaft.
- X 15. The power of attorney in the prior application is to:

Herbert I. Cantor, Reg. No. 24,392; James F. McKeown, Reg. No. 25,406; Donald D. Evenson, Reg. No. 26,160; Joseph D. Evans, Reg. No. 26,269; Gary R. Edwards, Reg. No. 31,824; and Jeffrey D. Sanok, Reg. No. 32,169.

- X a. The power appears in the original application papers in the prior application.
- X b. Since the power does not appear in the original application papers, a copy of the power in the prior application is enclosed.
- c. Attached is a duplicate of a Supplemental Declaration which was filed in the prior application to overcome informalities.
- X d. Address all future correspondence to:

CROWELL & MORING, LLP Intellectual Property Group P.O. Box 14300 Washington, DC 20044-4300

Customer No.

23911

X 16. Forms PTO-892 and PTO-1449 listing prior art made of record in the prior application are attached. A copy of each of the listed references should be available in the prior application file.

- X 17. A Preliminary Amendment is being filed herewith.
- X 18. Return Receipt Postcard.
- X 19. Other: Application Data Sheet
- X 19. Information Disclosure Statement

Respectfully submitted,

February 5, 2004

Vincent J. Sunderdick Registration No. 29,004

CROWELL & MORING, L.L.P. Intellectual Property Group 1001 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, D.C. 20005

Tel: (202) 624-2500 Fax: (202) 628-8844

VJS:ast:adb

Document#302353